

Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 SMI-01 VO-03 INSE-00

SCA-01 NSF-04 AEC-11 INT-08 DRC-01 /152 W

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R 031952Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9430

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 0026

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR

SUBJ: PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S VIEWS ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT PROBLEM

THIS MORNING I HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK BRIEFLY WITH
PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA. HE RAISED THE QUESTION OF ILLEGAL
IMMIGRANTS AND SAID THIS WAS OF COURSE A DIFFICULT PROBLEM
FOR MEXICO. HE NOTED THAT ALMOST ALL OTHER OUTSTANDING
PROBLEMS BETWEEN MEXICO AND U.S. SUCH AS SALINITY,
BORDER PROBLEMS, SMUGGLING OF ARTIFACTS ETC. HAD BEEN
SETTLED BY NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. HE
ADDED HOWEVER THAT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT PROBLEM WAS MORE
DIFFICULT FOR REASONS THAT ARE WELL KNOWN. HE INDICATED
HE REALIZED THAT WAS NOT A PROBLEM WHICH COULD BE SETTLED
BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ALONE AND
THAT CONGRESSIONAL ACTION WOULD CERTAINLY BE REQUIRED TO
OBTAIN ADMISSION OF ANY SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL NUMBERS OF
MEXICANS INTO THE U*S. IN THIS CONNECTION HE INDICATED
INTEREST IN DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH SENATOR MANSFIELD
WHenever THE LATTER SHOULD COME TO MEXICO IN CONNECTION
WITH THE NEXT MEETING OF THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP.
ECHEVERRIA CONCLUDED THAT HE WAS FULLY AWARE OF ALL OF
THE DIFFICULTIES OF THIS ISSUE FROM THE U.S. VIEWPOINT
AND THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT A SPEEDY SETTLEMENT BUT ONLY
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HOPED THAT BOTH SIDES COULD COME UP WITH SOME IDEAS FOR

DISCUSSION IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MATTER HERE.
IN CONCLUSION, ECHEVERRIA SEEMED TO ADOPT A PERFECTLY
REASONABLE ATTITUDE ON THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT QUESTION
AND DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE ANY ILLUSIONS ABOUT A RAPID
CONCLUSION THEREOF.
MCBRIDE

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